



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Boat Education and B.O.W.
1420 E. 6th Ave
Helena, MT 59620-0701

BOATERS CHECKLIST

Items Required by Montana or Federal Law *
<input type="checkbox"/> Wearable Life Jackets
<input type="checkbox"/> Throwable PFD (boats 16' or longer)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Extinguisher(s) (Motorboat)
<input type="checkbox"/> Backfire Flame Arrester (Motorboat)
<input type="checkbox"/> Ventilation System (Motorboat)
<input type="checkbox"/> Whistle or Horn
<input type="checkbox"/> Navigational Lights
<input type="checkbox"/> Registration Document (sailboats 12' long and longer and all motorboats)
<input type="checkbox"/> Registration Number And Decal (Sailboats 12' Long And Longer And All Motorboats)

Recommended Items
<input type="checkbox"/> Dewatering Device (bucket, bailer, bilge pump)
<input type="checkbox"/> Anchor and Line
<input type="checkbox"/> Mooring Lines
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Lines
<input type="checkbox"/> Toolkit or Multipurpose Tool
<input type="checkbox"/> Maps
<input type="checkbox"/> Compass
<input type="checkbox"/> GPS
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Paddle/Oar
<input type="checkbox"/> Spare Parts (as appropriate)
<input type="checkbox"/> Spare Prop (Motorboat)
<input type="checkbox"/> Weather Radio
<input type="checkbox"/> Knife
<input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight/Spotlight (preferably with batteries that work)
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications Ability (VHF radio, CB radio, cell phone, satellite phone, 2-way radios)
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Gear (see list)
<input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit (see list)
<input type="checkbox"/> Repair Kit/Duct Tape
<input type="checkbox"/> Boat Hook
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra fuel/oil (Motorboat)
<input type="checkbox"/> A Boat (clean; remove mud and vegetation so aquatic nuisance species are not transported)

Emergency Gear
<input type="checkbox"/> Throw Rope/Bag
<input type="checkbox"/> Signaling Mirror (on life jacket)
<input type="checkbox"/> Whistle (on life jacket)
<input type="checkbox"/> Light/Strobe (on life jacket)
<input type="checkbox"/> Rescue Blanket
<input type="checkbox"/> Spare Warm Hats, Mittens, Socks
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB)
<input type="checkbox"/> Matches (in a waterproof container), Lighter or Flint and Steel
<input type="checkbox"/> A type of Fire Starter
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Purification Tablets, Filter or Purifier
<input type="checkbox"/> Distress Flag (black square and ball on orange background)
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Food and Water
<input type="checkbox"/> Dry Bag(s)

First AID KIT **
<input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Manual
<input type="checkbox"/> Adhesive Bandage Strips (various sizes)
<input type="checkbox"/> Adhesive Pads
<input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly Closures
<input type="checkbox"/> Sterile Dressing Pads
<input type="checkbox"/> Gauze Roll
<input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof Tape (roll)
<input type="checkbox"/> Cohesive Compression (roll) Bandages
<input type="checkbox"/> Triangular Bandage
<input type="checkbox"/> Eye Pads/Eye Wash
<input type="checkbox"/> Antiseptic Solution
<input type="checkbox"/> Cotton Swabs/Balls
<input type="checkbox"/> Antibiotic Ointment
<input type="checkbox"/> Scissors
<input type="checkbox"/> Tweezers
<input type="checkbox"/> CPR Mask (learn how to use it)
<input type="checkbox"/> Safety Pins
<input type="checkbox"/> Antimicrobial Soap
<input type="checkbox"/> Antiseptic Towelettes/Ointments
<input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Spray
<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrocortisone Cream
<input type="checkbox"/> Sting Relief Spray, Gel, Ointment or Swabs
<input type="checkbox"/> The Extractor® (for stings and snake bites)
<input type="checkbox"/> Exam Gloves
<input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer
<input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum/Foam Splints
<input type="checkbox"/> Drugs ***

Items for Personal Comfort
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses
<input type="checkbox"/> Sun Screen
<input type="checkbox"/> Hat
<input type="checkbox"/> Food
<input type="checkbox"/> Water
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooler
<input type="checkbox"/> Warm Clothes
<input type="checkbox"/> Seat Cushion(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Camping Gear (as appropriate)
<input type="checkbox"/> Drysuit or Wetsuit/Boots
<input type="checkbox"/> Insect Repellent
<input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars
<input type="checkbox"/> Camera

* Required equipment varies by type and length of boat, open or closed construction, inboard, outboard, sail or manual propulsion and whether operation is on state or federal waters. Review the latest editions of Montana Boating Laws and Federal Requirements and Safety Tips for Recreational Boats to determine which requirements apply.

** It is a good idea to have your first aid kit in a watertight, floating container.

*** Drugs or medicines in your first aid kit should be specialized for the people in the boat. For example, if someone is strongly allergic to insect stings, you would want to include a doctor-prescribed kit for anaphylactic shock. For manually-propelled craft, you may want to include pain relievers or muscle relaxers.